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Nicholas and Alexandra: LC's Unpublished Documents

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JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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On the Cover: This portrait of Maria Romanova, second daughter of Czar Nicholas and his wife, Alexandra, is among dozens of photographs and documents smuggled out of Russia to Paris by Nikolai Sokolov when the Bolsheviks came to power. The documents—many of which are still unpublished—were deposited at the Library in 1953.

Cover Story: The files of the Sokolov Commission, which investigated the disappearance of the Czar's family in 1918, are among several rare Russian collections held by the Law Library. This article is the first in a series of three describing the holdings. 26

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Dr. Billington Announces Top-Level Personnel Shifts

Personnel changes announced by Dr. Billington on Friday, Jan. 26, have placed a retired U.S. Army lieutenant general temporarily in charge of day-to-day Library operations and shifted other assignments of top-level staff, effective Feb. 4.

Thomas P. Carney, who served as the Army's deputy chief of staff for personnel until his retirement in 1994, will serve temporarily as deputy librarian while the Library conducts a nationwide search to fill the position permanently.

Ed Ohnemus

Thomas Carney

Mr. Carney will be responsible for the "overall administration and management of internal Library operations, consistent with my executive direction and established policies," Dr. Billington said in the announcement. As the Army's deputy chief of staff for personnel in 1992–94, Mr. Carney was responsible for plans, policies and programs for the management of all military and civilian personnel serving in both active and reserve units.

Other changes include the reassignment of Suzanne E. Thorin from chief of staff to associate librarian responsible for key support services. Jo Ann C. Jenkins will be reassigned from senior advisor for diversity to chief of staff. Michael Davidson, who served as Senate Legal Counsel from 1979 to 1995, will serve as acting general counsel during the medical leave of General Counsel John J. Kominski.

The Librarian explained that these changes are in line with his efforts begun last fall to "improve and streamline the management of the Library and to achieve efficiencies though restructuring." The first of these changes was to consolidate Collections Services, Constituent Services and most of Cultural Affairs into one service unit—Library Services—headed by Associate Librarian for Library Services Winston Tabb. The second was launching a new initiative to foster staff development and transition under the leadership of Hiram L. Davis (see LC *Information Bulletin*, Jan. 22).

Ms. Thorin, who served as chief of staff since March 8, 1992, will have specific line authority to manage and direct the services necessary to support Library programs "of national and international significance," Dr. Billington said. These will include Financial Services, Human Resources Services, Information Technology Services, Integrated Support Services, including Protective Services, and the National Digital Library Program.

"She will also participate in the overall management of the Library through membership on the Executive Committee, the top policy-making body," Dr. Billington said.

During her 16 years with the Library, Ms. Thorin has served as acting director of the former Public Service and Collection Management I, with responsibility for special collections and Asian, African and Middle Eastern Studies. She served as chief of the former General Reading Rooms Division, as head of the former General Reading Rooms' Research Facilities Section and as head of the Music Section of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Ms. Thorin holds two master's degrees from the University of Michigan, one in music history and the other in library science.

Ms. Jenkins, who has served as senior advisor for diversity, in her new job as chief of staff will be responsible for managing the Office of the Librarian and for improving

Suzanne Thorin

communication between the staff and the Librarian's Office, while also serving on the Executive Committee.

"In addition, she will continue to serve as the senior official responsible for providing advice and expertise in guiding the growth and development of diversity within the Library and for overseeing all Library efforts to achieve its goals in this area," Dr. Billington said.

During the 13 years preceding her appointment as senior advisor for diversity, Ms. Jenkins held several key jobs in Washington. For example, she was a consultant to the

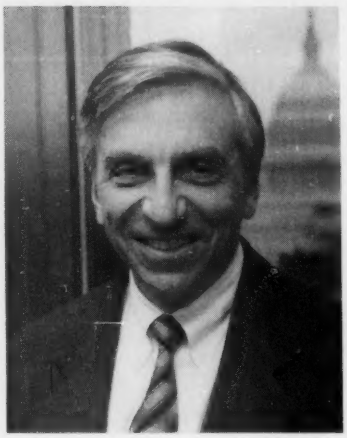
Jo Ann Jenkins

Office of Diversity at the Federal National Mortgage Association; director of the Office of Advocacy and Enterprise at the U.S. Department of Agriculture; associate director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, U.S.D.A.; special assistant to former Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole and partner in Quality Management Service.

She earned her bachelor's degree in political science from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Ala.

Michael Davidson, as Senate Legal Counsel between 1979 and 1995, represented the Senate and its committees, members, officers and employees in litigation before U.S. courts and advised them on official matters.

After graduating from the University of Chicago Law School in 1964, Mr. Davidson was a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya, an assistant counsel for the NAACP Legal and Educational Defense Fund and a visiting member of the faculty of the Law School of the State University of New York at Buffalo. Before becoming Senate Legal Counsel in 1979, he served as chief staff counsel at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.



Ed Ohnemus

Michael Davidson

Library of Congress Membership Available: *Includes Subscription to* Civilization *Magazine*

Associate membership in the Library of Congress, which includes a year's subscription to *Civilization: The Magazine of the Library of Congress*, is available for annual dues of $20 (see LC *Information Bulletin*, May 2, 1994).

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Edith, a five-year-old cotton picker, was captured on film in 1913 by photographer Lewis Hine, whose groundbreaking oeuvre was featured in a recent issue of *Civilization*.

Fred Astaire, Nanette Fabray and Jack Buchanan playing around in "The Band Wagon" (MGM, 1953)

Movie Milestones:

25 Films Added to National Registry

Dr. Billington has announced his annual selection of 25 motion pictures to be added to the National Film Registry. This group of titles brings the total number of films placed on the registry to 175.

Under the terms of the National Film Preservation Act, each year the Librarian of Congress names 25 "culturally, historically or aesthetically" significant motion pictures to the registry, with each list designed to reflect the full breadth and diversity of America's film heritage, thus increasing public awareness of the richness of American cinema and the need for its preservation.

The selections, announced Dec. 27, range from renowned Hollywood classics ("The Band Wagon," "North by Northwest") to landmark silent films ("The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," "The Last of the Mohicans"), from films made before 1900 ("Blacksmith Scene," "Rip Van Winkle") to recent innovative independent works ("El Norte," "Chan Is Missing").

The Librarian chose this year's titles after reviewing approximately 1,100 films nominated by the public and discussions with the distinguished members and alternates of his advisory body, the National Film Preservation Board, which the Librarian consults both on registry film selection and national film preservation policy. Noting that this "is not Academy Awards night" or "the Kennedy Center Honors," Dr. Billington stressed that "the films we choose are not necessarily the 'best' American films ever made nor the most famous. But they are films that continue to have enduring cultural, historical or aesthetic significance."

Thanks to funding from the Madison Council, the Library's private sector advisory body, a program of 37 previously chosen National Film Registry selections is touring the nation with upcoming stops planned for Houston, Minneapolis, Detroit and Salt Lake City, among other cities (see following story). Audiences in Madison, Wis., Omaha, Neb., and Lexington, Ky., have already received the tour with enthusiastic appreciation.

For each title named to the registry, the Library of Congress works to ensure that the film is preserved permanently, either through the

The 25 for '95

☐ "The Adventures of Robin Hood" (1938)
☐ "All That Heaven Allows" (1955)
☐ "American Graffiti" (1973)
☐ "The Band Wagon" (1953)
☐ "Blacksmith Scene" (1893)
☐ "Cabaret (1972)
☐ "Chan Is Missing" (1982)
☐ "The Conversation" (1974)
☐ "The Day the Earth Stood Still" (1951)
☐ "El Norte" (1983)
☐ "Fatty's Tintype Tangle" (1915)
☐ "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" (1921)
☐ "Fury" (1936)
☐ "Gerald McBoing Boing" (1951)
☐ "The Hospital" (1971)
☐ "Jammin' the Blues" (1944)
☐ "The Last of the Mohicans" (1920)
☐ "Manhatta" (1921)
☐ "North by Northwest" (1959)
☐ "The Philadelphia Story" (1940)
☐ "Rip Van Winkle" (1896)
☐ "Seventh Heaven" (1927)
☐ "Stagecoach" (1939)
☐ "To Fly" (1976)
☐ "To Kill a Mockingbird" (1962)

Library's own massive motion picture preservation program at Dayton, Ohio, or through collaborative ventures with other archives, motion picture studios and independent filmmakers. The perilous state of America's film heritage was documented by the Library in "Film Preservation 1993: A Study of the Current State of American Film Preservation."

The Library of Congress contains one of the largest collections of films and television programs in the world, from the earliest surviving copyrighted motion picture to the latest feature releases.

Rock Hudson and Jane Wyman (top) in "All That Heaven Allows" (Universal, 1955); Gene Hackman in "The Conversation" (Paramount, 1974)

Reel Time:
National Film Registry Tour Begins

The stunning depth and clarity of a new print of the carefully restored "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre." The laughter of children of the Nintendo generation enjoying the timeless comic routines of the Marx Brothers in "Duck Soup." The visceral reaction to John Huston's portrayal of the embodiment of evil in "Chinatown."

These are among the many cinematic delights that the National Film Registry Tour has provided to film audiences since the tour began in October 1995 (see LC *Information Bulletin*, Sept. 18, 1995)

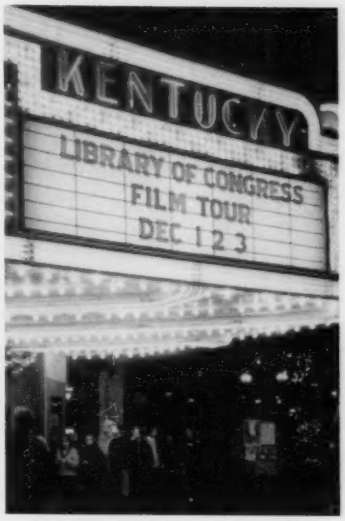
The tour consists of a selection of movies from the National Film Registry that celebrate American filmmaking and raise awareness of the need to preserve America's rich and varied film heritage. The result of a collaborative effort, the tour was organized by the Library and the members of the National Film Preservation Board. Since 1989, Dr. Billington has named 175 "culturally, historically or aesthetically" significant motion pictures to the National Film Registry.

Studios and producers are providing new prints of their titles and waiving screening fees. Many archives are represented, including the Library of Congress, the UCLA Film and Television Archive, the Museum of Modern Art Department of Film and Video and the International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House. The James Madison Council, the Library's private sector advisory group, and The Film Foundation, a group of leading film directors committed to film preservation, have generously provided the tour's initial funding, with additional support from Turner Classic Movies commencing in 1996.

Dr. Billington has noted that "the moving picture is not so much the art form as the language of the 20th century. Future generations will wonder why so little of such a marvelously accessible and appealing record was ever preserved or seriously studied."

Robert Mitchum (left) and Billy Chapin in "The Night of the Hunter" (United Artists, 1955)

Film is a fragile medium, and motion pictures of all types are deteriorating faster than archives can preserve them. The Library and the



Marquee in Lexington, Ky.

National Film Preservation Board recognize that films cannot simply be preserved and then locked away in a vault or made available only on video. The theatrical experience is an important element of the tour, allowing audiences to see these films as their creators intended—on the large screen of a darkened theater. Wherever possible, restored "movie palaces" have been chosen as the venues, and organ or piano accompaniment has been arranged for the silent movies on the program.

"The response to the tour by the public and the press has been so enthusiastic," said David Francis, chief of the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division. "People are very grateful for the opportunity to enjoy these films in a theatrical setting."

The National Film Registry Tour premiered Oct. 6–9 in Madison, Wis., at the Wisconsin Union of the University of Wisconsin and the Madison Civic Center, with the

James Earl Jones at the tour's premiere in Madison, Wis.

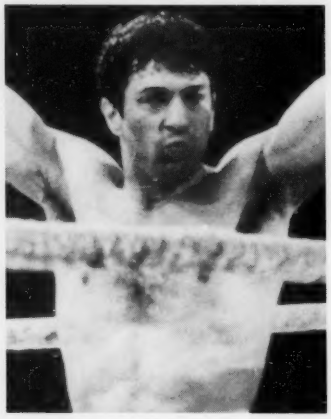
assistance of the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research. The center holds a rich collection of pre-1949 Warner Bros. films and memorabilia and produced lobby displays featuring scripts and contracts from "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre."

Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson welcomed the tour and made his office available for a Library press conference. Friday night's gala opening featured remarks by Dr. Billington, screenwriter Fay Kanin, the chair of the National Film Preservation Board and actor and Madison Council member James Earl Jones.

The sold-out crowd of 1,300 gave Mr. Jones a standing ovation and cheered his recitation of classic cinema lines, including the immortal words spoken by Darth Vader, "I have you now, Obi-Wan."

On Sunday, Pulitzer Prize-winning film critic Roger Ebert shared his perspectives on film preservation and film history by introducing two programs, "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre" with "The Great Train Robbery" and "Dr. Strangelove," which was shown with "The March of Time: Inside Nazi Germany-1938." The tour was also featured in a segment on "Siskel and Ebert" a week later.

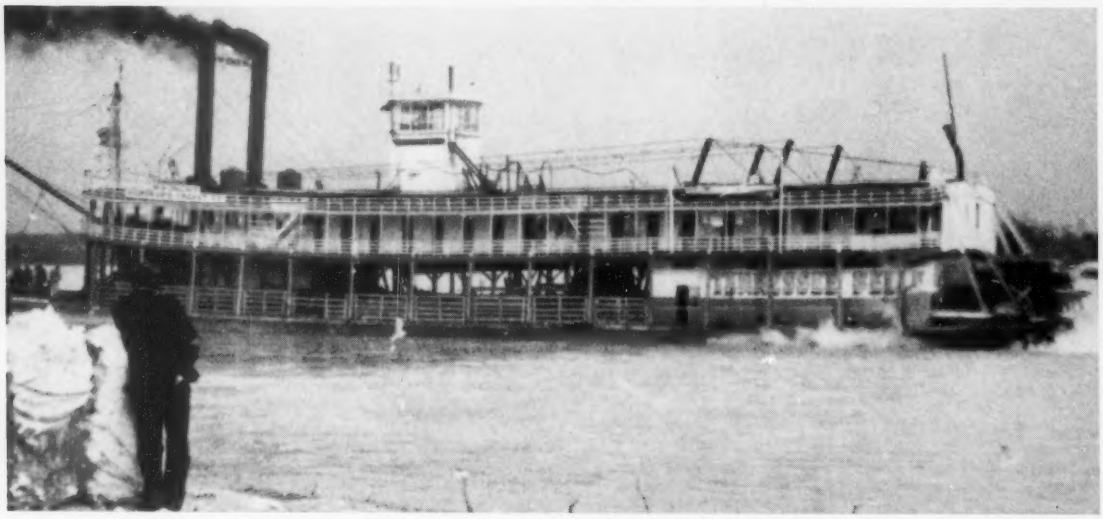
The second stop was the Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha, Neb., on Nov. 3–5. David Francis spoke on behalf of the Library and James Earl Jones repeated his role as guest celebrity for another appreciative



Robert De Niro in "Raging Bull" (United Artists, 1980)

crowd. The museum used the tour as the start for its own "Second Sunday Screening" film program.

Audiences in Lexington, Ky., sampled the tour Dec. 1–3. Filmgoers came from Cincinnati and Louisville, and at least one enthusiast claimed to have seen all 13 movies screened that weekend. The venue was the Kentucky Theatre.



Scene from "The River," a documentary (Farm Security Administration/Paramount, 1937)

Henry Fonda (left) and Victor Mature in "My Darling Clementine" (20th Century Fox, 1953)

David Francis at the Kentucky Theatre opening

Threatened with the wrecking ball five years ago, the theater was saved by a group of citizens with the aid of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government. The Kentucky, built in 1922 and meticulously restored, seats about 800.

Along the way the tour has been collaborating with another Library program—the Center for the Book, which has been featured at each tour stop. The state Centers for the Book in Wisconsin, Nebraska, Kentucky and Texas have provided handout materials for display tables in the theater lobbies.

The year began with the Registry films appearing at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Jan. 11–14. More stops have been planned: the Film Center of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 23–25; the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, March 2–8; the Tower Theatre in Salt Lake City, March 29–April 4; and the Detroit Institute of Arts, April 19–22. The Library hopes to take the tour to at least one city in each of the 50 states.

As people throughout the film community are becoming increasingly involved in film preservation, the National Film Registry Tour is building grass roots support for their efforts and allowing their work to be seen and enjoyed by audiences across America.

—*Margaret Ershler*

Margaret Ershler is coordinator of the National Film Registry Tour.

Louis Jordan, Hermione Gingold and Leslie Caron in "Gigi" (MGM, 1958)

Nicholas and Alexandra:
Unpublished Romanov Documents Are in LC's Law Library

by Andrei Pliguzov and Abby Smith

Following is the first of three articles on the Law Library's collection of documents and photographs relating to the assassination of the Russian imperial family. Parts two and three will be published in future issues of the LC Information Bulletin.

The Library of Congress has long served the nation as its "library of last resort," where people can locate copies of rare or hard-to-find research materials. But it has also served as what one might call the "repository of last resort."

Valuable collections from around the globe that have faced censorship, physical degradation or extinction for political, religious or other reasons have made their way here, either intentionally or by accident. In particular, the Law Library, dedicated to the preservation and access of international legal materials, has acquired some of its finest and rarest Russian holdings because donors have deposited documents there to ensure physical safety and free accessibility.

This is precisely how the Law Library acquired its unique copy of the Sokolov Commission documents, investigative case files from the first inquiry into the murder of the Romanov family in 1918, begun just weeks after their assassination in Ekaterinburg, Russia. George Tellberg, a former professor, deposited the documents at the Library in 1953.

The story of the execution of the czar's family in the early hours of the morning of July 17, 1918, is now known in all its bloody details. Recent genetic tests, based on skeletal remains excavated from a pit in the Ural Mountains, where the bodies were dumped, have yielded irrefutable evidence of the death of the family, along with several retainers. Only the remains of Czarevich Alexis and one of the younger daughters (either Maria or Anastasia) have not been found. Their bodies are believed to have been incinerated. Genetic testing has also proved that Anna Anderson, who long claimed to be Anastasia, had no genetic relationship to the imperial family.

This recent investigation into the murders has been fully supported by the current Russian government, which has even floated, or at least encouraged, rumors that the imperial remains will be interred in the official resting place of the Romanov dynasty in St. Petersburg.

Ironically, the present investigation is driven by exactly the same motives as Sokolov's inquiry—to find out what actually happened; to prove beyond a doubt that all members of the imperial family were killed (and, therefore, forestall any claims by pretenders like Anderson); and to discredit the Bolsheviks and their methods.

As we now know, the imperial family was killed because the city where they were being held by the Red Army was soon to be overrun by the anticommunists. In the midst of the chaos of civil war, the Bolshevik leaders, thousands of miles away in the Kremlin, deemed it expedient to kill the Romanovs rather than risk their capture during evacuation to a safer place.

Within days of their death, Adm. Alexander Kolchak's "white" army marched into Ekaterinburg. By July 30, he ordered an investigation into the murders. The gross ineptness of the original investigators, Aleksei Nemetkin and Ivan Sergeev,

Czarina Alexandra Fyodorevna with her invalid son Alexis, a hemophiliac (opposite); Ipatiev House in Ekaterinburg, Russia, where the imperial family was executed, was destroyed by order of Boris Yeltsin in the 1980s.

Anastasia, the fourth daughter, was "a real comedian . . . But she herself never laughed, just her eyes twinkled."

soon led Kolchak to have all the forensic materials remanded to his personal custody. On Feb. 6, 1919, he handed the case over to Nikolai Sokolov, Investigating Magistrate for Cases of Special Importance of the Omsk Tribunal. During the criminal investigation, Sokolov examined all available witnesses connected with the imperial family during their exile. He gathered photographs, deposed servants, doctors and tutors to the children, guards, soldiers and local eyewitnesses.

The findings of the Sokolov Commission, comprising eight volumes and dozens of photographs, became important state documents for Kolchak's Siberian government and were carefully preserved through the chaos of war, the disorderly retreat to Eastern Siberia and the army's dispersal in the Far East. Sokolov himself transported a set of documents through Vladivostok to Paris, where he prepared a book about the fate of the Romanovs (published posthumously in 1925). Seven of the original eight volumes that belonged to Sokolov are now at Harvard University.

The Law Library has materials that had been in the personal possession of Kolchak's justice minister, George Tellberg. Not unlike today, when authors are rushing to print with books based on the findings of the latest investigation, the early 1920s also saw a rash of books about the then-mysterious fate of the imperial family. Tellberg was among the first into print. In 1920 he published *The Last Days of the Romanovs*, based on files he had borrowed from Kolchak and his officers. Tellberg held on to the materials and in 1954 donated them to the Law Library, along with a large collection of materials relating to the Siberian government and the last years of Romanov rule.

The collection includes material never published in its original form. While some eyewitness testimony appeared in a German edition of the Sokolov Commission papers in 1987 (in Russian), the evidence that did not relate directly to the assassination was omitted, such as the deposition of Sidney Gibbes, the English tutor to the imperial family from 1908 until the family's evacuation

Tatiana, the third daughter, was "reserved, haughty, not open, but the most responsible."

Olga, the oldest, "was fair, direct, honest and open . . . but her manners were a little brusque."

from Tobolsk to Ekaterinburg in spring 1918. Gibbes lived in the royal household, and his account provides new insights into the character of the emperor and individual members of the family, including the children. The oldest, Olga, "was fair, direct, honest and open . . . but could be easily irritated and her manners were a little brusque." Tatiana "was reserved, haughty, not open, but the most responsible." Maria loved their place of exile in Tobolsk, and she told Gibbes "she would happily stay there forever." Anastasia "was a real comedian, and she made everyone laugh. But she herself never laughed, just her eyes twinkled." And Alexis was clever, though not fond of reading, and had odd fancies, such as collecting old nails, saying "they may be useful."

While abroad, refugees from Russia such as Tellberg and Sokolov published their accounts of the murder of the Romanovs. In their homeland, the Soviet government refused to divulge any information about the fate of Nicholas and his family. This vacuum of official information was soon filled with numerous popular tales of the miraculous survival of one or more of the children. Several young women declared themselves to be Anastasia, and a telegraph operator in Siberia who was barely literate, certainly knew no foreign languages and was wholly ignorant of the intricacies of court etiquette (which would have been second nature to a Romanov), stubbornly insisted that he was the Czarevich Alexis.

The Czarina doing needlework

The basement where the family was executed was photographed in 1918 by the Sokolov Commission, soon after the murders.

Today, thanks to unfettered access to all of Sokolov's materials, we have little trouble separating fact from fiction. But there is one pressing question: Who ordered the murders? Lenin's close adviser Yakov Sverdlov? Lenin himself?

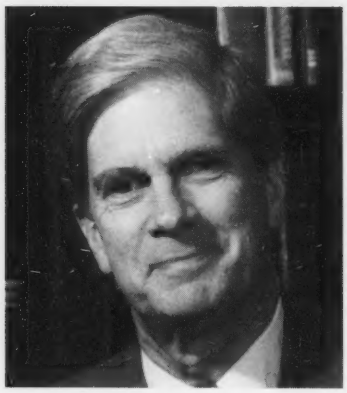
There is no written evidence, because in 1918, just as today, such an order would have been given by telephone or face to face behind closed doors. Just as Tellberg understood how important it is for posterity that all documentary evidence about the Romanov deaths be preserved, so the men who ordered the execution understood that that which is not recorded cannot be preserved.

And so history must remain silent.

—Andrei Pliguzov is a senior research fellow at the Russian Academy of Science who is doing archival research in the Law Library. Abby Smith is assistant to the associate librarian for Library Serices and holds a doctorate in Russian history from Harvard University.

Men of Letters:

Librarians of Congress Who Authored Books



Dr. Billington

Of the 13 men who have served as this nation's Librarians of Congress since 1802—two years after the Library of Congress was created by a congressional act—several have been men of letters in the truest sense.

In 1995, 75 selections from the distinguished oeuvre of the Pulitzer-Prize-winning Librarian of Congress Emeritus were published in the *Daniel J. Boorstin Reader* as part of Random House's prestigious Modern Library series (see LC *Information Bulletin*, Jan. 22).

While Dr. Boorstin, a best-selling historian, and Archibald MacLeish, a poet who won the Pulitzer three times, are the most prolific authors who have served as Librarians of Congress, others have written, compiled or edited books, novels, plays, encyclopedias and poems.

James H. Billington, who became the 13th Librarian in 1987, is a scholar and historian, who formerly directed the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Between 1958 and 1992, he wrote five books about Russia, covering that country's history, arts, culture and political transformation. The books are *Mikhailovsky and Russian Populism* (1958), *The Icon and the Axe: An Interpretive History of Russian Culture* (1966), *The Arts of Russia* (1970), *Fire in the Minds of Men: Origins of the Revolutionary Faith* (1980) and *Russia Transformed: Breakthrough to Hope, Moscow, August 1991* (1992). The latter explores the breakup of the Soviet Union, drawing on Dr. Billington's experiences in Russia during that dramatic month.

Perhaps Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter said it best when he urged President Franklin D. Roosevelt to appoint a Librarian "who knows books, loves books and makes books."

While all of the Librarians have known and loved books, not all have made books. The first "Librarian of letters," George Watterston, while still a young man, wrote a play, *The Child of Feeling* (1809); a novel, *Glencarn, or the Disappointment of Youth* (1810); and several poems before he became the third Librarian of Congress (1815–1829). Never reticent to espouse his feelings, his first book was *The Lawyer, or, Man as He Ought Not to Be (1808).*

"In 1815 his novels, play and poems had established him as Washington's leading (and for all practical purposes, only) literary figure," wrote William Matheson in *Librarians of Congress, 1802–1974.*

As a reporter for the *National Journal* and then as editor of the *Washington City's Gazette,* Watterston gained a keen sense of national politics, which is reflected in his book *Wanderer in Washington (1827),* about members of Congress, Cabinet members, local institutions and current events. According to Julia Kennedy, in her biography of Watterston, he also was the first author to use the capital city as a setting for fiction, as he did in his novel *The L . . . . . Family at Washington* (1822). After Watterston left his Librarian position, he continued to write, in guidebooks, biographical sketches and textbooks.

Watterston was followed by John Silvan Meehan, who began his career as the printer, then the publisher, of a religious journal. A few years before becoming Librarian (1829–1861), Meehan purchased and was involved with the editorial content of the Washington weekly newspaper *United States Telegraph.*

Ainsworth Rand Spofford is the Librarian who had the longest association with the Library. He began his career literally making books, as a bookbinder. For a while, he wrote editorials under the pseudonym "Sigma" for the New York *Evening Post* and later as the editorial writer and war correspondent for the *Commercial,* a Western newspaper. After a threat to cut his newspaper job's salary, Spofford decided to accept a position at the Library of Congress, where he remained until his death almost 50 years later. Spofford served as an Assistant Librarian

Daniel Boorstin

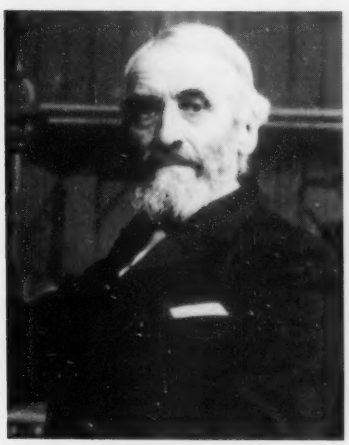
(1861–1864) before becoming Librarian (1865–1897), and then was Chief Assistant Librarian (1898–1908).

Spofford liked to collect pieces of information and put them in almanacs and encyclopedias. He was "almost a compulsive popularizer of knowledge," wrote Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole in *Librarians of Congress, 1802–1974.*

Among the tomes Spofford edited are: the annual *American Almanac and Treasury of Facts, Statistical, Financial and Political* (12 volumes, between 1878–89); *The Library of Choice Literature* (eight volumes, 1882); and *The Library of Historic Characters and Famous Events of All Nations and All Ages* (10 volumes, 1894–95). He also summed up his own interests in *A Book for All Readers, Designed as an Aid to the Collection, Use, and Preservation of Books and the Formation of Public and Private Libraries* (1900).

"In the last decades of the 19th century Spofford became so well known as a compiler and official source that in 1900 his principal publisher, Gebbie & Co. of Philadelphia, promoted a standard Rand McNally atlas under the title *Spofford's Cabinet Cyclopedia Atlas of the World,*" Dr. Cole wrote.

When President William McKinley appointed John Russell Young to



Ainsworth Rand Spofford

succeed Spofford as the seventh Librarian, Young immediately appointed Spofford to be his Chief Assistant Librarian. Young came to the Library after successes as well as disappointments in the journalistic field.

By age 25, in 1865, he was managing editor of the *New York Tribune.* Already he had been a writer and editor for the *Philadelphia Press,* reporting for a city he would always consider home. He also helped to found the *Philadelphia Morning Post.*

At the *Tribune,* Young hired Samuel L. Clemens (aka Mark Twain) to write sketches of his tour to the Holy Land, first published in the paper and then in the book *Innocents Abroad* (1868). Later Young sent his own travel dispatches to the *New York Herald* during a world tour he took with former President Ulysses S. Grant.

After some editorial attacks in a rival New York newspaper and resulting lawsuits, Young resigned as editor in April 1868. Three years later, at age 31, Young left the country to live abroad for several years. In 1877 he gave a press dinner in London for his friend the war hero President Grant, who invited Young to accompany him on a tour he was just beginning that would encompass Europe and both the Middle and Far East. Young accepted.

His travel reports during the following 2½ years grew into a two-volume book, *Around the World with General Grant,* published in 1879. It includes descriptions of exotic places, like the Taj Mahal and the ruins of Karnac, and vignettes, such as a ceremonial dinner in Nagasaki which served 50 courses. The book also contains conversations of Grant with German Chancellor Otto Bismark, the Japanese emperor, and Young's own discourses with Grant regarding the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Many years later, after Young had moved back to the States, he edited two volumes on a subject close to his heart, *A Memorial History of Philadelphia.* By the time Young was appointed Librarian of Congress (1897–1899), he had already led an active life as journalist, political ac-

Luther Evans

tivist and diplomat. As a result of his experiences and the eminent people he knew, Young began writing *Men and Memories* in 1891 at the insistence of his wife, May D. Russell Young. The book, published posthumously in 1901, was edited by Mrs. Young.

Archibald MacLeish, the ninth Librarian (1939–1944), also led a varied life: He was a lawyer, journalist, editor, statesman, teacher, playwright, Librarian, but mostly a poet. Even his plays were written in verse.

While a young man, MacLeish left a promising law career and moved his family to Paris to become a full-time poet. There, he associated with the period's other literary expatriates, among them Ernest Hemingway and John Dos Passos. MacLeish had already published at least four collections of poems when he began work on his long, narrative and allegorical work, *Conquistador,* in 1929. It is about the conquest of the New World; but on another level, it is a metaphor for the American dream of a better life. It won the Pulitzer Prize in 1932.

MacLeish's poetry and drama often examined political and social

issues. Among his plays in verse, *The Fall of the City* (1937) and *Air Raid* (1938) were produced for radio.

MacLeish initially refused the post as Librarian offered to him by Franklin D. Roosevelt, since he knew its responsibilities would leave him with little time to devote to poetry. He changed his mind, however, when FDR appealed to his sense of public duty. When FDR died in 1945, MacLeish wrote the poem "April Elegy" for him.

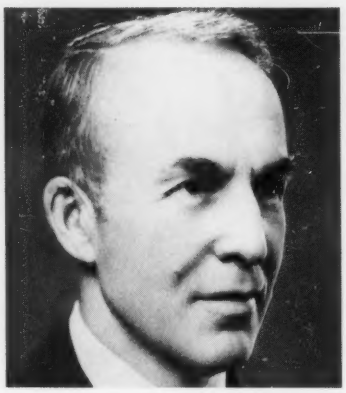
After MacLeish left his post as Librarian for a brief stint with the State Department, he began teaching at Harvard and writing again. His book *Collected Poems, 1917–52* received the 1953 Pulitzer Prize for poetry and included 41 new poems. The book also won other poetry awards, including the Bollingen Prize (shared with William Carlos Williams), the National Book Award and the Shelley Memorial Award.

A morality play, *J.B.*, which MacLeish wrote in his mid-60s, won the 1959 Pulitzer Prize for drama. *J.B.* is about a New England banker-millionaire, modeled after the Bible's Old Testament character Job. J.B. represents a contemporary Everyman, as he ponders the meaning of life and the injustices of war. In a triumphant conclusion, he realizes that love is the solution to life's inequities.

J.B. was published as a verse drama in 1958. After seeing the play performed at Yale, Broadway producer Alfred de Liagre Jr. decided to do *J.B.* and secured Elia Kazan to direct. The main roles went to Christopher Plummer, Raymond Massey and James Daly. The play successfully ran on Broadway for a year, then toured for another year.

MacLeish immediately began work on another verse play, *Herakles*, based on the Greek myth of Hercules. In 1965 it opened in Ann Arbor, Mich., with another esteemed stage actor, Rosemary Harris, as Herakles' wife, Megara. However, this more somber play never achieved the commercial success of *J.B.* In 1977 his *New and Collected Poems, 1917–1976*, a 500-page book, was published, which was followed in 1985 with *Collected Poems, 1917–1982*.

Luther H. Evans was a political scientist who came to the Library as director of Legislative Reference. Shortly thereafter, he was promoted to Chief Assistant Librarian, and then succeeded MacLeish as Librarian (1945–1953). Earlier in Evans's career as an assistant professor of politics at Princeton, he wrote



Archibald MacLeish

numerous articles and book reviews on politics and Colonial administration. One research project resulted in a book, *The Virgin Islands: From Naval Base to New Deal*, which examined the United States' administration of the islands from 1917 to 1935.

In 1945 MacLeish—then Assistant Secretary of State—asked Evans to participate in the United Nations delegation to establish the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Evans eventually left the Library to take a position as director general of UNESCO. A summary of these meetings resulted in a book, *The United States and UNESCO*, which Evans published in 1971 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the event.

Dr. Boorstin, 81, who served as Librarian from 1975 to 1987, is currently working on *The Seekers*, which will be a companion to two earlier books: *The Discoverers* (1983), about the history of Western culture, and *The Creators* (1992), about achievements in the arts. *The Seekers* will examine how history is studied and its meaning.

Many of Dr. Boorstin's books have been translated into 25 languages. These include his best-selling book, *The Americans: The Colonial Experience* (1958), which won the Bancroft Prize; *The Americans: The National Experience* (1965), which won the Parkman Prize, and *The Americans: The Democratic Experience* (1973), which won the Pulitzer and Dexter prizes.

Originally educated as a lawyer—Dr. Boorstin holds a doctoral degree in judicial science—his first book was an adaption of his dissertation. The book, *The Mysterious Science of the Law* (1940), tells how English common law developed in America.

Among his many other books are *The Lost World of Thomas Jefferson* (1948), *The Genius of American Politics* (1953) and a high school textbook, *A History of the United States* (1980). More recently a collection of essays was published in 1994 as *Cleopatra's Nose*.

For readers who would like a preview of Dr. Boorstin's works or for those who would like to reread favorite passages, selections from 23 books have been published in *The Boorstin Reader*. Dr. Boorstin has been married to Ruth F. Boorstin, the editor of all his books, since 1941.

Although Librarians of Congress are not required by statute or tradition to be authors, eight of them can rightfully be called "librarians of letters."

—*Kathleen Cassedy*

Kathleen Cassedy is a free-lance writer/editor in the Public Affairs Office.

News from the National Digital Library Program:
25,000 Vintage Photos Made Available on the Internet

Following is one in an occasional series of articles on the Library's National Digital Library Program, which aims to make available 5 million items by the year 2000. To access this and other Library collections, visit LC's site on the World Wide Web at http://www.loc.gov/.

More than 25,000 vintage photographs of America's most enchanting turn-of-the-century landscapes and cityscapes have been digitized and made available on the World Wide Web, enhancing the already significant content that the Library makes available on the Information Superhighway.

The collection of the Detroit Publishing Co., one of the largest American publishers of photographic views and postcards around 1900, "may be the single largest collection of photographs on the Web," said Carol Johnson, assistant curator for Photographic Collections in the Prints and Photographs Division.

The photographs document American life from 1880 to 1920, a period when America rose to industrial power and the Gilded Age faded into the Progressive era. Domestic tourism flourished as Progressive strategists began to promote public parks and resorts as a way to integrate Americans, including millions of newly arrived immigrants.

The Detroit Publishing Co. helped spur this trend, portraying America's cities and countrysides as a cultivated Eden where citizens played and strolled in public parks, gardens and seaside spas. The images provide rich documentation of well-known streets, buildings, monuments, natural scenery, industry, transportation and daily life in America. The collection also includes images from Canada, Cuba, Mexico, the West Indies and Panama.

The digitized collection is well indexed, with individual bibliographic records for each photograph. Researchers can either use keywords to find specific images, or "browse" through a subject list prepared by the Library especially for searching graphic materials, said

Niagara Falls viewed from Goat Island, N.Y. (above); the "Helter Skelter" at Luna Park, Coney Island, N.Y. (next page)

Carl Fleischhauer, digital coordinator for the National Digital Library Program. The Web site also includes a bibliography, a list of related collections and a restriction statement explaining the copyright status of the images.

The Detroit Publishing Co. was launched in the late 1890s as a photographic publishing house (then called the Detroit Photographic Co.) by Detroit businessman and publisher William A. Livingstone Jr. and photographer/photo-publisher Edwin H. Husher.

The company became very successful, at its peak selling 7 million prints annually through outlets in Detroit, New York, Los Angeles, London and Zurich, as well as at popular tourist spots and by mail.

The secret to the firm's commercial success was its exclusive rights to the Swiss "Photochrom" process, a photomechanical technique that used lithographic stones to convert black-and-white prints to color. The process allowed the company to mass-produce color postcards, prints and albums that were of unusually high quality. "Glass-plate negatives provide a lot of detail as it is, and the addition of color was particularly rare at that period," Ms. Johnson commented.

In 1897 Livingstone persuaded accomplished landscape photographer William Henry Jackson to join the firm. Jackson was probably the most famous living photographer in America at the time, thanks to his role as official cameraman for the U.S. Geological and Geographic Survey of the Western territories in the 1870s. Jackson's images of Yellowstone's natural wonders (not included here) had been instrumental in persuading Congress to establish the first national park.

Jackson became president of the Detroit Publishing Co., adding his stock of thousands of glass-plate negatives to its inventory. The

Fort Independence, Pleasure Bay, South Boston

Digital Library Coordinator Represents United States in G–7 Initiative

The Library of Congress is reaching out to the global information society by participating in the Group of Seven digital library initiative.

Suzanne Thorin, LC's National Digital Library Program coordinator, has been invited by Thomas Kalil, director of the president's National Economic Council, to represent the United States at the Bibliotheca Universalis initiative of the G–7.

Through its participation, the Library officially represents the United States on issues of international importance to the future of libraries. The global network of electronic libraries is one of the 11 pilot projects endorsed by the seven participating nations (United States, Canada, Great Britain, France, Italy, Germany and Japan).

On May 29, 1995, the Library of Congress participated in the first G–7 working group on Electronic Libraries. It was held at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France.

As the U.S. representative, Ms. Thorin is responsible for working with the U.S. library community and other national libraries to develop an agenda for international cooperation, attending international meetings and providing periodic status reports.

"What a great opportunity for us, working with libraries across the country, to help develop electronic libraries worldwide. I'm honored by this appointment," said Ms. Thorin.

company, in turn, provided Jackson with a specially outfitted railroad car, which he used on long-distance shoots and as a traveling showroom for selling company photos.

Starting in 1898, the nation's fervent interest in the Spanish-American War led to the firm's large inventory of photographs of Cuba and war-related scenes, including hundreds of images of warships. In the 1910s, the inventory was further expanded to include photographic copies of artworks, which were popular as educational tools as well as inexpensive home decor.

Business declined during World War I. Travel was restricted and interest in postcards declined. Meanwhile, competing firms began to introduce printing methods that were simpler and cheaper than Photocrom. In 1932 the Detroit Publishing Co. went bankrupt.

Jackson—who as the last surviving business partner had inherited the company's entire collection—gave all the negatives and prints to the Edison Institute in Dearborn, Mich. (now the Henry Ford Museum). In 1949 the Edison Institute gave all the negatives and many duplicate prints to the Colorado Historical Society. Later that year the Colorado Historical Society transferred most of the negatives and prints for sites east of the Mississippi River to the Library of Congress. The Society retains the images of sites west of the Mississippi.

—*Kristin Knauth*

Kristin Knauth is a free-lance writer/editor working in the Public Affairs Office.

Swan boats in the Boston Public Gardens (above, right); beachgoers in Palm Beach, Fla. (right); men curling in Central Park (opposite page, above); Coney Island at night (opposite, below)

News from the Center for the Book:
Texas Hosts Library-Museum-Head Start Workshop

"What every child needs is encouragement from an attentive adult who tells them that they have a future, that somebody cares about them, and that they *can* overcome their problems. . . . We *must* instill in children an inner core of direction and a sense of survival."

With these words, project coordinator Virginia Mathews launched the Center for the Book's third Library-Museum-Head Start Partnership workshop, which took place on Dec. 7–8, 1995, in Austin, Texas. Organized and hosted by the Texas Center for the Book in cooperation with the Texas State Library, the meeting brought together more than 90 enthusiastic Texas Head Start teachers, museum specialists and librarians who serve children.

"These workshops focus on developing ideas, guidelines and agreements for cooperative projects that bring libraries, museums and Head Start programs together at the community level to encourage reading and family literacy," said John Y. Cole, the Center for the Book's director. "The Center for the Book is grateful to Head Start for the funding and encouragement that make the workshops—and the partnerships—happen."

The Library-Head Start Partnership Project began in 1992 with a joint agreement between the Center for the Book and the Head Start Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Museums that serve children were added to the partnership in 1994. Previous workshops, all hosted by state centers for the book, have been held in Sacramento, Calif. (December 1993); Richmond, Va. (March 1994); Topeka, Kan. (May 1994); Orlando, Fla. (February 1995) and St. Paul, Minn. (April 1995).

Deborah Edward discusses the Head Start program with John Cole (center) and Robert Martin at an Austin Children's Museum reception launching the workshop.

The Association for Library Services to Children, a division of the American Library Association, is a project sponsor and the major link to libraries. The Association of Youth Museums is the principal partnership link to museums.

The discussions in Austin began with a 40-minute video produced by the Center for the Book about the first phase of the partnership project. Accompanied by a printed guide, the video describes how to form a partnership, demonstrates library program formats and techniques, provides criteria for deciding "what makes a good book good" and shows how library involvement can encourage parental involvement and link library resources to all Head Start activities.

For information about obtaining the video, write or call the Center for the Book, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–4920, (202) 707–5221.

A 13-page project summary, "The Library-Museum-Head Start Partnership, 1992–1996: A National Project with Local Impact," was also distributed. The summary notes that since 1992, nearly 500 Head Start teachers and staff, librarians and museum specialists have participated in workshops or related meetings. Trained participants, often with support from state sources, have led workshops in Ohio, Maine, Oregon, Louisiana, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Connecticut. It also includes copies of agreements between public libraries, museums and local Head Start programs. Copies of this summary also are available from the Center for the Book.

Other speakers at the Austin workshop included: Jan Moltzan, director, Texas Center for the Book; Jeanette Larson, Library Development Division, Texas State Library; Gwen D. Chance, Texas Head Start Collaboration Project, Texas Health and Human Services Division; Janet Rice Elman, executive director, Association of Youth Museums; Susan Roman, executive director, Association for Library Service to Children; Barbara Immroth, Graduate School of Library and Information Science,

University of Texas; Linda Reasoner, project director, TASC Region 4; and Elizabeth Morgan, project coordinator, Connections Resource Center, Austin Community College.

On Dec. 8, participants were greeted by Ramiro S. Salazar, director of the Dallas Public Library, which also is the home of the Texas Center for the Book, and Robert S. Martin, director of the Texas State Library and Archives. They also participated in two mini-workshops: "Building Coalitions," led by Gwen Chance, and "Tell It Like It Is: An Introduction to Evaluation," led by Keith Curry Lance, director of Library Evaluation Services at the Colorado Department of Education.

A workshop highlight was a tour and dinner at the Austin Children's Museum, hosted by museum executive director Deborah Edward.

☐ **Washington Center for the Book Promotes Literature on the Internet.** On Nov. 9, 1995, the Washington Center for the Book, based at the Seattle Public Library, joined with Seattle Public Center for Technology to produce its first literary program broadcast live over the Internet. Scholar and historian George Frein, portraying Mark Twain, gave a 20-minute presentation and then took questions from high school students in the central library auditorium and others participating from computer terminals at various locations. As part of the project, Nancy Pearl, executive director of the Washington Center for the Book, and Willem Scholten, director of the Center for Technology, developed a curriculum-related home page on Mark Twain, featuring the full text of the first edition of *Huckleberry Finn*, photographs, Twain's signature, a bibliography of books by or about Twain and an audio portion of readings from Twain's work. The Twain project has been funded by the Nesholm Family Foundation.

The Washington Center for the Book recently completed "Read On Washington," a statewide contest to select the best photographs of people throughout Washington in the act of reading. Thanks to a grant from the Boeing Co., each of the 23 winning photographers received a cash prize. Their photographs, plus 27 "honorable mentions," are available as a traveling exhibit to libraries across Washington.

In the past two years, Executive Director Nancy Pearl has become well-known throughout the state as a speaker, book reviewer and the host of a weekly radio program about books on KUOW, Seattle's public radio station. She also is the author of "Debunking 10 Myths Publishers Have About Libraries" in the Sept. 1, 1995, issue of *Library Journal*.

In addition to humanities programming (featuring Thomas Jefferson, Harriet Beecher Stowe and Mark Twain) in the Seattle area and author programs at the Seattle Public Library, the center also is developing—in cooperation with the Washington State Library—a database of Washington writers. Another popular program is the monthly Writers' Salon, a program that focuses on topics of particular interest to writers, editors, publishers and literary agents.

A list of Washington writers was produced in conjunction with the Seattle display of the Library of Congress's "Language of the Land: Journeys Through Literary America" traveling exhibit. A "Write On Washington" T-shirt was also produced. For information about the availability of the T-shirt and about any of the Washington Center for the Book's projects, write or call Nancy Pearl, Seattle Public Library, 1000 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104, (206) 386-4184.

☐ **North Carolina Center for the Book Promotes Poetry.** Frannie Ashburn, director of the North Carolina Center for the Book, is the coordinator of "Poetry Spoken Then and Now," a National Endowment for the Humanities-funded program that in 1996 and 1997 will enable at least 60 public libraries in North and South Carolina to host scholar-led reading and discussion groups on modern poetry. The project is jointly sponsored with the State Library of South Carolina and South Carolina's Association of Public Library Administrators. The North Carolina Center for the Book is located at the State Library of North Carolina. For information about "Poetry Spoken Then and Now" and other projects and plans of the North Carolina center, write or call Frannie Ashburn, State Library of North Carolina, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601-1807, (919) 733-2570.

Ice skating stars Kristi Yamaguchi and Kurt Browning presented the Center for the Book's 30-second "Read More About It" message following "Aladdin on Ice," their Nov. 17, 1995, CBS Television special. More than 5 million viewers saw the message.

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